

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 SSM-05 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02
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ACDA-12 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /107 W
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O 070620Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3412
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
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AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION SINAI
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USICA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

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USICA FOR PGM/RC

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PEPR EG IS US XF
SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN PRESS TREATMENT OF CAMP DAVID: SUMMIT
- OPENS AMID GREAT SECRECY

SUMMARY. PRESS SEPTEMBER 7 HIGHLIGHTS OPENING OF CAMP
DAVID AMID GREAT SECRECY BUT CARRIES VITUALLY NO SUB-
STANCE. FOR SECOND DAY RUNNING COMMENTARIES HIT THE
SOVIET UNION AND REJECTIONISTS FOR CRITICISM OF SUMMIT.
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OUTCOME OF CAMP DAVID STILL DEPENDS ON PRESIDENT CARTER.
MINOR AKHBAR COLUMNIST MOUNTS FIRST AD HOMINEM ATTACK
ON BEGIN WE HAVE SEEN IN A WHILE. END SUMMARY.

1. CAMP DAVID OPENS. AHRAH AND AKHBAR SEPTEMBER 7
HEADLINE BEGINNING OF CAMP DAVID, NOTING APPEAL BY
CARTER, BEGIN, AND SADAT FOR WORLD TO PRAY FOR SUCCESS.

PAPERS CARRY EXTENSIVE PHOTO COVERAGE IN ABSENCE HARD NEWS. AHRAH AND AKHBAR CORRESPONDENTS REPORT THAT TALKS DEALT WITH THE "DIFFICULT POINTS" FACING THE TWO SIDES IN "INTENSIVE" DISCUSSIONS.

2. PROPOSALS. ACCORDING GUMHURIYYA, PRESIDENT CARTER PRESENTED "AMERICAN PROPOSALS" DURING CLOSED MEETING WITH SADAT. HODA TEWFIK CLAIMS PROPOSALS AIMED AT NARROWING THE GAP BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL RE WITHDRAWAL ON ALL FRONTS, ARAB SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE WEST BANK AND GAZA, AND PALESTINIAN RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION. DRAWING FROM SADAT ARRIVAL STATEMENT, TEWFIK STRESSES IMPORTANCE OF AMERICAN PARTNERSHIP ROLE AND NEED TO REACH AGREEMENT ON THE PRINCIPLES OF PEACE. HOWEVER, PAPER HEADLINES BEGIN HAS NOT CHANGED HIS STAND--TEWFIK CHARACTERIZES ISRAELI PLAN AS NOT NEW BUT MERELY A REPHRASING OF BEGIN'S SELF-RULE PROPOSAL.

3. AHRAH FRONT-PAGES REUTERS REPORT QUOTING GOE PERM REP TO ARAB LEAGUE, TAHSIN BASHIR, AS SAYING IN LONDON EGYPTIAN PEACE PROPOSAL SHOULD WIN THE SUPPORT OF "ANY RATIONAL ISRAELI OR PALESTINIAN." HE DESCRIBES PLAN AS "CONSTRUCTIVE AND CLEAR-CUT." NO DETAILS GIVEN.

4. SOVIETS HIT AGAIN. EDITORIALS CONTINUE TO FLAY UNCLASSIFIED

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SOVIETS (AND REJECTIONISTS) FOR CRITICIZING CAMP DAVID AND SUGGESTING SADAT SEEKING SEPARATE PEACE. ACCORDING AHRAH, MOSCOW FURIOUS OVER FACT SADAT IS TRYING TO MAKE USG LIVE UP TO ITS RESPONSIBILITIES, THEREBY CONFRONTING ISRAEL WITH "FINAL CHOICE" WITH REGARD TO ITS EXISTENCE. SOVIET AND REJECTIONIST CRITICISMS ARE BRANDED AS "MANEUVERINGS" AND "WORN-OUT IDEAS." PAPER CONCLUDES NO ONE HAS RIGHT TO BLOCK PATH TO PEACE. IN SIMILAR VEIN, AKHBAR MANAGING EDITOR AHMED ZEIN ACCUSES SOVIETS OF ATTEMPTING TO DIVIDE THE ARABS IN ORDER TO IMPOSE "GUARDIANSHIP." ZEIN NOTES THAT DURING PAST 30 YEARS SOVIETS FAILED TO PRESENT A SOLUTION TO MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM; THE ARABS HAVE "SUFFERED ENOUGH" FROM SUBORDINATION TO USSR.

5. CAMP DAVID DEPENDS ON CARTER. AKHBAR'S MAIN EDITORIAL BEGINS AND ENDS WITH STATEMENT THAT THE OUTCOME OF CAMP DAVID DEPENDS ON PRESIDENT CARTER--WHOLE WORLD AWAITING FOR HIS "COURAGEOUS DECISION." (GUMHURIYYA CARTOON DEPICTS BEGIN AND DAYAN BOARDING PLANE FOR U.S., WITH BEGIN DECLARING "NOW WE SHALL SEE WHO RUNS THE U.S....CARTER OR ME*")

6. AD HOMINEM ATTACK. AKHBAR CARRIES FIRST AD
HOMINEM ATTACK ON BEGIN WE HAVE SEEN RECENTLY. MINOR
COLUMNIST CALLS UPON ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER TO FORGET
AT CAMP DAVID THAT HE IS "MAN OF TERROR AND COLLECTIVE
MASSACRE." IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE PEACE, BEGIN SHOULD
GIVE UP HIS GREEDY AMBITIONS FOR TERRITORY. MATTHEWS

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